

# 'MAURICE IS TOO YOUNG TO WED' SAYS BIG BROTHER BARRY

ONLY DAYS before Bee Gee Maurice marries Lulu, his elder brother, Barry Gibb, said this week: "I wish they had waited. And I feel the same about Robin's recent marriage.

"It's their ages I'm thinking about—and I should know. I was married at 20 and a year later I was being sued for divorce." (The case, brought by his wife, Maureen, is due to be heard during this year.)

Continued Barry, who is now 22: "Maurice and Robin are barely 19 (the twin brothers celebrated their birthdays on December 22). Both couples will be happy, I feel sure, but to get married at 19 really is rather running into a thing.

"After the experience I had, I don't really agree with getting married too young. I'm concerned for them because of the mistakes I made. I hope they will both remember what happened to me and avoid the same mistakes."

Robin married Molly Hullis a few days before his 19th birthday — Maurice, of course, marries Lulu on Tuesday. Barry, meanwhile, has a steady girlfriend, Linda Gray, but added: "Although I'm now with the girl I want to be with, I wouldn't re-marry straight away after a divorce. It would not be advisable to rush into marriage again and, besides, as far as the group goes it's im-

portant that one of us should stay unmarried.

"If I was to remarry, the whole group would be sewn up (the other Bee Gee, drummer Colin Petersen, married Joanne Newfield last July) and I think that would be awfully damaging to the group.

"I know most pop groups say that these days it doesn't matter whether you are married or not for the fans have a more adult outlook on it than in the past—but I just don't agree. A lot of these big groups that have all got themselves married are no longer box office attractions. I won't name names, but just go and see

how many they can pull into a theatre since they all got married.

"Marriage does still upset the fans. Look at the biggest group of them all—one of them has stayed single . . . Paul McCartney."

**PAUL MCCARTNEY'S** marriage mystery is still unsolved. He adamantly refuses to confirm last week's "Disc" exclusive that he plans to wed Linda Eastman in London this Sunday (February 16).

And another terse "No Comment" came from the bachelor Beatle at Apple HQ on Monday

## and a Paul puzzle—is he already married?



Barry Gibb with girlfriend Linda Gray... "It's their ages—and I should know".

in reply to a fresh report from America — **THAT HE WAS ALREADY MARRIED!**

This new news reached Disc from the States this week via 19-year-old American student Lesley Samuels, living in London. She revealed that her friend Barbara Mitnick in New York knew someone who had been invited to the wedding—in the States in early January.

Says Lesley: "We write to each other constantly. I believe her information is correct."

Lesley has also been one of the many fans besieging Paul's home in St. John's Wood, London, since

the news broke.

Also this week Linda, a 27-year-old divorcee daughter of the wealthy Eastman - Kodak film family in the U.S., has been house-hunting.

London estate agent Perry Press has been instructed by her to look for a country home in about 50 acres of land. "It will definitely be for them both," claims Mr. Press.

Beatle George Harrison was expected to leave University College Hospital, London, sometime this week after having a tonsils operation and treatment for a tooth complaint.

## LULU: ONE-DAY HONEYMOON

IT WILL BE a one-day honeymoon for 20-year-old Lulu when she marries her Bee Gee sweetheart Maurice Gibb on Tuesday (18). On Thursday she is back before the cameras for rehearsals for her TV show.

She becomes Mrs Maurice Gibb at an all-white wedding at the picturesque country church of St. James, Gerrards Cross, Bucking-

by big brother Barry.

Last word from Lulu about the "secret" wedding that is no more: "We would have liked to have kept it quiet, but it's just something you have to accept in this business."

Stuart Henry sac

## A message to all Valentines

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